GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:133
ANSWERED ON:14.07.2004
SHORTAGE OF ESSENTIAL MEDICINES AND EQUIPMENT
Vijay Krishna Shri

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is huge shortage of essential medicines and equipment in the Central Government hospitals;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a)to(c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 133 FOR 14TH JULY, 2004

Generally, there is no shortage of medicines in various Central Government Hospitals, viz. Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, Safdarjung Hospital, Lady Hardinge Medical College and Sucheta Kriplani Hospital in Delhi and JIPMER, Pondicherry. In these hospitals, medicines according to formulary are distributed free of cost to patients as per the existing policy. In case of non-availability of essential and life saving medicines, the same are also procured and supplied to poor patients free of cost.

These hospitals are multi-disciplinary teaching/treatment institutions having a range of treatment facilities in various speciality/super-speciality disciplines and have specialized and latest equipments for providing these treatment facilities. The upgradation of these hospitals is an on-going process as per the requirement.

All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi and PGIMER, Chandigarh, which are super-specialized hospitals set up by an Act of Parliament, have state-of-art equipments and treatment facilities. There is no shortage of life saving and essential medicines in these Hospitals. Life saving emergency medicines are also provided to poor indoor patients free of cost.